

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-01 L-02 SWF-01 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /026 W
----- 072070

R 040603Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2105

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2873

BEIRUT FOR AID OFFICER BALL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SY

SUBJ: USG CLAIMS: GRAIN STORAGE LOAN

REF: STATE 261312

1. CLASSIFIED FILES ORIGINALLY SALVAGED BY NORMAN PRATT ARE ALL BACK IN DAMASCUS. FILES ON GRAIN STORAGE LOAN WERE REVIEWED BY AID OFFICER BALL DEC 3 IN ATTEMPT CONFIRM HIS AND CHARGE' HOUGHTON'S IMPRESSION ENGINEERING WORK WAS GIVEN TO SYRIANS.

2. INFORMATION IN FILES STOPS TANTALIZINGLY SHORT OF PROVING TRANSFER ACTUALLY TOOK PLACE. HOWEVER, FOLLOWING POINTS MAY BE USEFUL:

A. ACCORDING TOPROGRESS REPORT NO. 19 SENT AS CIRCULAR AIRGRAM 527 DECEMBER 21, 1965, THE SYRIAN MAJOR PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION HAD BEEN GIVEN COPIES OF ALL CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, CIVIL AND MECHANICAL SPECIFICATIONS AND DRAWINGS FOR BOTH PHASES OF PROJECT. NOTE: BELIEVE THIS WAS POINT AT WHICH DISCOVERY MADE THAT PROJECT COST GREATLY EXCEEDED THE AMOUNT OF MONEY AVAILABLE UNDER THE LOAN, NECESSITATING CONSIDERABLE REWORKING OF THE PLANS. IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT ENGINEERING WORK WAS STILL BEING DONE IN THE SPRING OF
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1967.

2. BOTH UNDATED DAVIS LETTER TO AL-KHASS AND ALSO UNDATED HOUGHTON TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO SYRIAN EMBASSY NOTIFYING SYG OF LOAN DEOBLIGATION MADE POINT OF URGING SYRIANS TO USE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS TO BUILD PROJECTS USING OTHER FINANCING. BOTH LETTERS, HOWEVER, MAKE POINT THAT CONTRACTOR STILL HAD ONE PAYMENT DUE AND FINISHED PLANS WOULD BE AVAILABLE AFTER PAYMENT MADE, PRESUMABLY FROM LETTER OF COMMITMENT WHICH REQUIRED SYG AUTHORIZATION.

3. LETTER DATED MARCH 21, 1967 FROM ENGINEER BENNETT OF PARSONS COMPANY MAKES SAME POINT AS TWO ABOVE, OFFERING TO SHIP ALL DOCUMENTS UPON RECEIPT OF CONFIRMATION PAYMENT MADE.

4. GIVEN ALL ABOVE, POST SUGGESTS CONFIRMATION OF TURNOVER MIGHT BE MOST EASILY GOTTEN DIRECT FROM THE RALPH M. PARSONS COMPANY. SUGGEST ALSO OLD NESA LEGAL BRANCH FILES MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION, AS BALL RECALLS CLAIM BROUGHT BY PARSONS AGAINST AID IN CONJUNCTION PROJECT CANCELLATION.
MURPHY

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 04 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740351-0232
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: USG CLAIMS: GRAIN STORAGE LOAN
TAGS: EAID, SY, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005